



Australian Medical Network

MEDIA RELEASE

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Who's Calling the Shots! Why We Must STOP The WHO

The proposed "WHO Pandemic Treaty" and changes to the International Health Regulations, which are scheduled to go into effect internationally in 2024 (including Australia), would grant the WHO and affiliated organisations significant authority to direct Australian health policy. Australians and the Australian government must urgently oppose the treaty. Particularly concerning are the unprecedented threats to national sovereignty, a person's right to bodily integrity, the right to select or reject their own medical care, treatment or a procedure, and the censorship of health professionals that the treaty will enforce.

Under the treaty, Australia would be required to demand that medical communications adhere to the WHO's guidelines. As a result, we can anticipate that our regulatory authorities will mandate that doctors and other healthcare providers follow the WHO's official public statement in order to practise medicine and health care. There would be no tolerance for debate.

"Let me be clear. Doctors and other health professionals are already being censored in Australia. You need only look on the website of the regulator AHPRA to see their "Joint Position Statement" of 9 March 2021 which makes this very clear. Now, the arbiter of what doctors and other health professionals can and can't say will be the WHO – not even our own health bureaucrats," said CEO of the Australian Medical Network Dijana Dragomirovic

A further serious concern raised about the treaty is that it would be legally binding as was agreed by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) which is the working party developing recommendations for consideration by the World Health Assembly. Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO's Director-General, said "The importance of a legally binding instrument cannot be overstated: it will be our collective legacy for future generations."

While the INB members and non-members are making legal decisions on Australia's behalf, Australia does not have direct representation on this body. Ratifying this treaty will erode national sovereignty because the WHO would have the authority to declare an emergency and direct how nations should respond to it, not just in terms of health but in all spheres, such as trade and environmental policy. Under a declared emergency, normal judicial processes would be suspended along with separation of powers and democratic processes.

"If Australia is actively involved in contributing to the development of the treaty, details of Australia's proposed positions should be made public at an early stage – now - to allow for proper debate. Only negligible information is available currently. There is also the question of conflicts of interest and cost to each member country to participate in this process", she said.

In addition to the proposed treaty, fourteen (14) countries are behind closed doors proposing significant revisions to the current International Health Regulations (IHR). The WHO claims to be devoted to transparency, however very little information and progress is shared on an issue that will affect every human being.

“Any decision must be independent of outside influence and not at the direction of the WHO or anyone else. Australians must continue to decide what is best for their health through the Australian Parliament and the laws made by our Parliament.” she said.

The Australian Medical Network calls for all Australians and the Australian Government to oppose the WHO Pandemic treaty. We are more than capable of dealing with human disease and emergencies on our own home soil.

Supporting Documents

AMN Briefing Paper – Proposed WHO Pandemic Treaty

[https://www.australianmedicalnetwork.com/advocacy/Proposed-World-Health-Organisation-Pandemic-Treaty-\(Briefing-Paper\).pdf](https://www.australianmedicalnetwork.com/advocacy/Proposed-World-Health-Organisation-Pandemic-Treaty-(Briefing-Paper).pdf)

AMN Briefing Paper – National Law Changes

<https://www.australianmedicalnetwork.com/AMN-National-Law-Proposed-Changes-Briefing-Paper.pdf>

AMN Summary - Passing of the National Law

<https://www.australianmedicalnetwork.com/Summary%E2%80%93passing-of-The-Health-Practitioner-Regulation-National-Law-13-October-2022.pdf>

About AMN

The Australian Medical Network (AMN) uses the power of the network and wider community to overcome Australia’s health challenges and supports medical doctors and clinicians to discover new health therapies that provide safe and effective solutions to all Australians. Along with advancing health, we offer medical legal support, medical research, the latest health-related news, networking and educational events.

Across Australia, AMN has over 10,000 health professionals and private citizens in its network. They include medical practitioners, surgeons, virologists, epidemiologists, critical care specialists, pharmacologists, lawyers, health economists, academics, other health professionals and health management executives. Because of our reach and combined education, training, and experience, this makes AMN highly competent to provide insights and warn all Australians and the Australian Government to oppose the WHO pandemic treaty.

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